

antibody, or an antigen-binding [region] fragment thereof, that binds to $\alpha 4\beta 1$.

32. (Twice amended) A method of preventing lymphocyte migration into tissues comprising administering an effective amount of an antibody, or an antigen-binding [region] fragment thereof, which prevents the adhesion of lymphocytes to endothelial cells via an $\alpha 4\beta 1$ receptor to a subject in need of such treatment.

REMARKS

In the outstanding Office Action, the Examiner indicated that applicant's June 9, 1993 Information Disclosure Statement was not considered since it appeared that the cited documents were not submitted. During an August 10, 1994 telephone conversation with Examiner Gambel, Jane Gunnison, attorney for applicant, acknowledged receipt of a return post-card from the Patent Office indicating that the documents were received on June 14, 1993. The Examiner requested that applicant resubmit the documents, along with a copy of the date-stamped, post-card receipt and agreed to consider the documents at that time. As requested, applicant resubmitted the documents on August 17, 1994. Applicant requests that the next Communication in this application be accompanied by an initialled Form PTO-1449 submitted with the June 9, 1993 Information Disclosure Statement, indicating the Examiner's consideration of the documents cited therein.

Claims 1-5, 32 and 34-36 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 on the asserted basis that the invention as disclosed is "inoperative" and "lacks utility."